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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of: **HAMADA, Akira et al.**

Group Art Unit: **1745**

Serial No.: **09/998,912**

Examiner: **J. A. MERCADO**

Filed: **December 3, 2001**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: **4274**

For: **GAS DIFFUSION LAYER ARRANGEMENT FOR A FUEL CELL (AS AMENDED)**

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116**  
**- EXPEDITED RESPONSE -**  
**GROUP ART UNIT 1745**

**MAIL STOP AF**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 12, 2005

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated **November 10, 2004**, please amend the above-identified application as follows: